

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons which follow. Claims 1-20 were presented in the application. Claims 15-20 have been cancelled, without prejudice. Claims 21-26 have been added, and Claims 2, 6, and 8-14 have been amended. No new matter has been added by these amendments. Accordingly, Claims 1-14 and 21-26 are currently pending in this application.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, are presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

Claims 2, 6, and 8-14 have been amended to correct typographical errors included therein. The Specification and Abstract have also been amended to correct typographical errors.

In the Office Action, Claims 1-20 were restricted between Group I (Claims 1-14) and Group II (Claims 15-20). By this Amendment, Applicants have elected Group I, with traverse. Claims 15-20 have been cancelled, without prejudice. Applicants expressly reserve the right to file a divisional patent application directed to the subject matter included in Claims 15-20.

Claims 21-26 have been added. Applicants submit that Claims 21-26 are part of Group I in that they are directed to a method of producing an integrated circuit.

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment.

to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

Respectfully submitted,

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